

Docket No.: 110650

## PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Toshihiko KONDO et al.

Application No.: 09/936,992

Filed: December 27, 2001

METHOD OF RECYCLING LEAD-ACID STORAGE BATTERY

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

For:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- $\bowtie$ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- $\boxtimes$ Relevance of the non-English language reference JP B2 2736243 is discussed in 2. the present specification.
- $\boxtimes$ The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- $\boxtimes$ An English-language Abstract of the non-English language reference JP B2 63-23623 is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

gistration No

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JAO:JSA/mlb

Date: December 27, 2001

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Form PTO-1449 US Dept. of Commerce ATTY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. 09/936,992 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE 110650 (REV. 8-83) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) APPLICANTS Toshihiko KONDO et al. FILING DATE December 27, 2001 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS SUB **EXAMINER** DATE NAME **CLASS** CLASS INITIAL DOCUMENT NUMBER 07/29/1997 Boivie 5,652,497 10/14/1997 Fujita 5,677,075 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS SUB DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE **COUNTRY CLASS** CLASS JP B2 63-23623 w/ abstract 05/17/1988 Japan JP B2 2736243 01/09/1998 Japan GB 2 187 903 A 09/16/1987 Great Britain JP A 9-45379 02/14/1997 Japan OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in Examiner:

conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.